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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 056371

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DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:CVANDOREN:GAP
APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:CVANDOREN
PM:LNOSENZO
CDA/NWT:TDAVIES
EA/ANP:MMICHAUD
S/S - MR. LUERS
- -
---------- 034028
R 131640Z MAR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

S E C R E T STATE 056371

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN INITIATIVE ON NUCLEAR SUPPLIER COOPERATION

1. ON MARCH 12 VAN DOREN (ACDA) AND NOSENZO (STATE/PM) CALLED IN MCKEOWN (COUNSELOR, AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY) WITH RESPECT TO INCIPIENT AUSTRALIAN INITIATIVE TO INCREASE COOPERATION ON EXPORT CONTROLS AMONG NUCLEAR EXPORTER COUNTRIES THROUGH THE ZANGER COMMITTEE MECHANISM.

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PAGE 02 STATE 056371

2. VAN DOREN AND NOSENZO, IN AN EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

AUSTRALIANS TO DELAY FOR THE TIME BEING PURSUIT OF THIS INITIATIVE, MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- WE BELIEVE THAT THERE MUST BE A STRONGER UNDER-STANDING BETWEEN MAJOR EXPORTERS OF NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY.

-- THE COOPERATION OF NON-NPT EXPORTERS (I.E., FRANCE) IS VITAL TO THIS UNDERTAKING.

-- USE OF THE ZANGGER MACHINERY MIGHT BE USEFUL AT A LATER DATE; HOWEVER, ITS CONNECTION TO THE NPT MAKES IT UNSUITABLE AS A VEHICLE FOR OBTAINING NON-NPT EXPORTERS' COOPERATION.

-- THUS WE HAVE BEEN PURSUING ON A BILATERAL BASIS POSSIBLE WAYS TO DEVELOP COMMON SUPPLIER UNDERSTANDINGS AMONG A NUMBER OF MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCLUDING THE UK, USSR, FRG, FRANCE, CANADA, AND THE U.S.

-- AT A LATER STAGE WE HOPE TO BROADEN OUR EFFORTS TO INCLUDE OTHER SUPPLIERS OF BOTH MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT, AS WELL AS RECIPIENT NATIONS.

3. THEY THEN PROVIDED MCKEOWN WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE GOALS INVOLVED IN OUR APPROACH TO KEY SUPPLIERS; ASKED THAT THE GOA NOT PURSUE A SEPARATE BUT SIMILAR COURSE OF ACTION UNTIL WE WERE ABLE TO ASSESS AND REPORT THE RESULTS OF OUR INITIATIVES; AND ASKED THAT IN THE INTERLUDE, BECAUSE OF EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF THESE ISSUES FOR SOME OF THE KEY SUPPLIER COUNTRIES INVOLVED, THE GOA HOLD THIS INFORMATION VERY CLOSELY AND NOT PURSUE FURTHER DETAILS UNTIL THE OUTCOME OF OUR CURRENT CONSULTATIONS BECAME CLEARER.

4. MR. MCKEOWN INDICATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD REPORT TO CANBERRA ACCORDINGLY. INGERSOLL

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